

was more widespread in the region this summer; two B thru the period (WS), one Island Cottage Woods 1 June (CC), one L 18 June (ST), three Durand-Eastman Park 23 July (RS), adults feeding young. Swallows did well after an early arrival this spring was greeted with a brief cold snap. Bank Swallow: max 7,000 BB 14 Aug. Cliff Swallow: nested again at BB, new nest location also reported further west on the lakeshore. Barn Swallow: max 300 WL 15-19 Aug. Black-capped Chickadee: a great breeding year. Carolina Wren: they're holding their own in the region with regular reports of individuals and family groups. Sedge Wren: no reports. Swainson's Thrush: one Cobb's Hill 8 June, late migrant; one HH 12 June, nesting?, one H 29 Aug, first of fall. Hermit Thrush: one HH 4, 12 June, traditional haunt. Am. Robin: large numbers everywhere, multiple broods were the rule. Loggerhead Shrike: one BB 19 Aug (MD), not very encouraging.

VIREOS-WARBLED: WHITE-EYED VIREO: one IB 4, 10 June (RS), the bird was singing regularly but no nesting was confirmed. Tennessee Warbler: one G 1 June, late spring report; one W 17 July, first of fall? Orange-crowned Warbler: one Riverside Cemetery 28 Aug (ST), first fall report. N. Parula: one Cobb's Hill 9 Aug, first fall report. Cape May Warbler: one H 25 Aug, first fall report. Black-throated Blue Warbler: one L 5, 18 June, uncommon nester. Prairie Warbler: one B 18-19 June (R & SS, B & PC), new location. Bay-breasted Warbler: one Mt. Hope area 1 June, late spring migrant; one WL 13 Aug, fall arrival. Blackpoll Warbler: one G 1 June, late spring report; one BB 19 Aug, fall arrival. Kentucky Warbler: one L 5 June (mob), nesting? Wilson's Warbler: one G 19 Aug, first fall report. Yellow-breasted Chat: one L 5 June, one Mendon Ponds 1-30 June.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: good nesting season. Vesper Sparrow: few reports. Savannah Sparrow: abundant along the lakeshore. Henslow's Sparrow: colony at L, absent from other nesting localities. White-throated Sparrow: one Parma 31 July, first fall report. Dark-eyed Junco: one BB 22 July, fall arrival. Western Meadowlark: present thru the period at Pt. Breeze site. **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:** two Hamlin 3 June (MD), one female 4 June (MD, KG); latest report for the species ever in the area; confirmed nesting may not be too far away. Orchard Oriole: successful nesting at traditional Pt. Breeze site, one Canadice 1 June. Pine Siskin: one W 17 July, interesting report.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

The cold wet weather of spring continued into early June, but on 10 June summer arrived in full force. The period was hot and dry except for a brief cold spell in late June, a cool break the second week in July and the same in August. Otherwise the temperature was in the 80's or 90's almost every day. There was little rain—mostly spotty—after early June until August.

Summer reports were meager. It was too hot for birding except for the most avid and dedicated people and they were busy Atlasing. The Atlas program did bring us reports from Steuben County, an area from which we have received very few records in recent years.

Two exotic species were reported, both of which were no doubt escaped birds. A Black-hooded Parakeet visited the Malcolm Lerch home 27 June and was seen two miles to the west on 5 August. A Red-crested (Brazilian) Cardinal was seen east of Ithaca in mid-August. This species was reported from Tioga Co. in April, Broome Co. in May, and Chemung Co. in mid-April—all the same bird?

Most shorebird reports were from two places, Corning Glass Works pond at Big Flats, where the hot dry weather lowered the water level and exposed mud flats, or Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge where the main pool was partially drained to expedite repair work on the dike. These two spots provided the best shorebird records in several years.

Nesting success at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge was down, with only 93 broods of geese and ducks combined, one brood each of Common Moorhen and American Coot, and no broods of Pied-billed Grebes. Black Terns were scarce.

Henslow's, Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows were way down in the area southeast of the south end of Canandaigua Lake and spotty in the rest of the Region.

Rarities: Glossy Ibis, Three-toed Woodpecker, Kentucky Warbler.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; M—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen—Seneca; * (starred)—confirming details on file.

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LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: sighted on Keuka, Sen and Cay Lakes with a max of 15 on Sen L 20 July, many for summer. Pied-billed Grebe: reported as "none" from Penn Yan and Elmira; down drastically at M with no broods seen. Double-crested Cormorant: one Hammondsport 28 July; nine Big Flats 11 Aug; several at M all summer. Am. Bittern: one Tompkins Co 19 June, only report. Least Bittern: one Big Flats 30 July, only report. Great Blue Heron: only one nest at M but 600-700 birds there fishing, most of them coming from the big colony in Marengo Swamp in Region 2. Great Egret: one Elmira 12 Aug; one Bath 20 Aug; six max for the summer at M. Black-crowned Night-Heron: about 30 pairs nested at M but there was no activity at the Van Cleef L colony at Sen Falls. **GLOSSY IBIS**: one M 13 July. Brant: one Aurora 7 June. Canada Goose: the Richardson's race bird remained on Sen L near Dundee where it has been since last fall.

Max waterfowl numbers at M as reported by the Refuge personnel:

Wood Duck	700 31 Aug	N. Shoveler	500 31 Aug
Green-winged Teal	1,500 31 Aug	Gadwall	500 31 Aug
Am. Black Duck	80 31 Aug	Am. Wigeon	1,200 31 Aug
Mallard	1,500 31 Aug	Redhead	25 31 Aug
N. Pintail	50 31 Aug	Ruddy Duck	12 31 Aug
Blue-winged Teal	1,700 31 Aug		

Note that in all cases the max occurred at the end of the period indicating that birds were moving into the Refuge. Wood Duck: two broods at Big Flats 30 July. Am. Black Duck: one pair only at Watkins Glen; only two broods at M. Mallard: many nesting at the south end of Sen L and at Big Flats. Canvasback: one brood M. Redhead: one brood M. Hooded Merganser: female with five young 29 June Big Flats. Com. Merganser: two females each with young Elmira.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: max 15 north of M 4 July. Osprey: the nest at M fledged one young; one Elmira 15 Aug. N. Harrier: encouraging summertime reports from Catlin, Rushville, M and Steuben Co. Red-shouldered Hawk: nested in Steuben and Cay Cos. Ring-necked Pheasant: two or three successful broods near Phelps. Otherwise reported as "none" or "very scarce." Ruffed Grouse: nesting reported from Rushville, Elmira, Steuben Co. and north of M. Wild Turkey: continuing to do well. Virginia Rail: young found at Big Flats and 12 at M on 13 July. Sora: adult and young Big Flats. Com. Moorhen: down at Elmira and drastically so at M with only one brood noted there. Am. Coot: no reports from Yates Co; at M numbers dropped from 200 in June to 50 in Aug with only one brood sighted. Black-bellied Plover: M 13 Aug. Semipalmated Plover: two to three Big Flats 30 July thru; 500 imm M 1 Aug. Greater Yellowlegs: a few M early July thru; 2 Big Flats 16 Aug. Lesser Yellowlegs: 170 M 23 July; Big Flats. Upland Sandpiper: reported from Steuben Co. only. Sanderling: one M 26 July; one Big Flats 30 July for only the second Elmira area record in 30 plus years. Stilt Sandpiper: 20 M 2 Aug. Short-billed Dowitcher: one Big Flats 28 June, an early migrant; 23 M 16 Aug. Caspian Tern: two Ithaca in July; four Watkins Glen 9 Aug and two on 22 Aug; two M 13-27 Aug.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: reported from Schuyler, Yates and Tompkins Cos. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: reported from Schuyler, Yates and as nesting in Steuben Co. Com. Barn-Owl: Steuben Co. Great Horned Owl: young calling Catlin; calling Lansing 23 Aug. Barred Owl: young calling Catlin. Long-eared Owl: one Ferguson's Corners, Yates Co first week in Aug. Whip-poor-will: calling Big Flats last week of June. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: up in Yates Co. Red-headed Woodpecker: widespread reports; feeding young at Montour Falls and north of M. Downy Woodpecker: the melanistic bird at Trumansburg, reported on in the last issue, remained until near mid-June; more than usual numbers reported at feeders in Yates Co. **THREE-TOED WOODPECKER:** one West Cameron, Steuben Co. 16 June (J. Clinton *vide* DM).*

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: one M 7 June; one north of M 18 Aug. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one Ithaca 7 June; three banded Penn Yan July and Aug. Acadian Flycatcher: Arnot Forest, Elmira singing 26 June (Smith, Gilbert). Least Flycatcher: 15 banded Penn Yan July and Aug. Purple Martin: very low numbers. Bank Swallow: 200 plus nests in a colony at Montour Falls; ML banded 409 at a colony of 1,000 nests south of Dresden and he had 36 returns from the birds banded at this colony in 1982; nesting near Rushville. Cliff Swallow: four nests on a barn near Ithaca. Blue Jay: seen eating Gypsy Moth larvae in the Elmira area 2 July. Carolina Wren: two locations in Schuyler Co. Sedge Wren: no reports. Marsh Wren: could not be found, though searched for, in Schuyler Co. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: nest Rushville; observed Steuben Co. E. Bluebird: encouraging reports especially from the southern half of the Region with 20 nesting pairs in Yates Co. Swainson's Thrush: at Penn Yan ML banded individuals on 26 July, 6, 13 and 23 Aug. Gray Catbird: up at Penn Yan where 117 were banded to the end of the period. N. Mockingbird: at Phelps a nesting pair was so noisy and aggressive that the landowner removed the nest. Loggerhead Shrike: no reports.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Philadelphia Vireo: singing many days north of Phelps, two birds were seen. The crash Atlasing done in Steuben Co. turned up the following species of warblers: Blue-winged, Nashville, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Pine, Prairie, Cerulean, Black-and-white, Am. Redstart, Louisiana Waterthrush, **KENTUCKY** (D. Judell *vide* DM)*, Mourning, Hooded, Canada and Yellow-breasted Chat. "Brewster's" hybrid: Ithaca 8 June and 9 July at a new location. "Lawrence's" hybrid: on 19 June south of Elmira DC saw a "classic" "Lawrence's" feeding three young. One was a typical Golden-wing, one was all yellow with just a line near the eye and one was a mixture of gray and yellow. Nashville: singing male Town of Hornby, Steuben Co. last two weeks of June and into July. Yellow: heavy

migratory movement late July. Bay-breasted: migrants 28 Aug New Townsend and Penn Yan. Cerulean: at two new locations in the Elmira area. Am. Redstart: large numbers at Brooktondale and Lansing 14 Aug. Prothonotary: carrying nesting material M June. N. Waterthrush: at mouth of Reeder's Creek, Town of Varick, Sen Co; adult carrying food Brooktondale. Com. Yellowthroat: at Hornby TB counted 25 adults carrying food in a Christmas tree plantation with trees three feet high.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Grasshopper Sparrow: singing at New Townsend June-July and at Rushville 24 July; at eight locations in Steuben Co. Henslow's Sparrow: two locations Steuben Co; one Valois, Sen Co. Orchard Oriole: one singing Pine City 4 June for a week or more. Evening Grosbeak: female at Odessa 13 Aug and one at Sen Falls 19 Aug.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

HARRIET MARSI

Summer, 1983—the year of the Big Debate. Did we or did we not live through a Heat Wave? The official weather service definition of a heat wave is "several consecutive days with high temperatures (taken in the shade) in the 90's or higher." Simple enough. Why any debate? Official National Weather Service reports from Edwin A. Link Field Station placed area temperatures 11 through 19 July—one of the hottest periods—at 88 degrees—hence no heat wave.

However, Link Field with its professional meteorological instruments, is located high atop Mt. Ettrick (elevation 1,600'). Many sweltering lowland valley dwellers (elevation $\pm$ 800') looked at their ordinary backyard thermometers and day after day noted mercury readings over the 90 degree mark. Try to tell them there was no Heat Wave!!!

Well, heat wave or no—except for a few weeks early in June, Region Four suffered one of the steamiest, stickiest, muggiest summers remembered by many. Day after day dawned "hot, humid and hazy." Morning after morning lengthened to noon and then afternoon with the mercury climbing and the haze hanging on. Perspiring wishful thinkers seemed to discern the faint outlines of cumulus clouds—the kind that could blossom into full-blown, shower-producing thunderheads. Faint heavenly rumblings often added to the illusion, but nothing ever materialized. A very few localized spots perhaps had light rain but mostly the sun sank, fire-red, viewed through the same hot, humid haze that had colored its rising. "Forty percent chance of showers tomorrow," came the pronouncement from Mt. Ettrick. Not good enough! Tomorrow after tomorrow was more of today and yesterday—"hot, humid, hazy," with a few notable exceptions—mostly violent. On 17 June, short, concentrated, intense thunderstorms ripped through the area. Three-quarters of an inch of rain fell on Mt. Ettrick in the 15 minutes between 5:45 and 6:00 p.m. A 46 mph gust of wind was reported at 5:46 p.m. Unfortunately the precipitation came so fast on the hard, dry earth